

Public Health Framework for Reopening

The Department of Health will follow three principles in making reopening recommendations:



1

Environmental Conditions will be continuously evaluated, including the epidemiology of COVID-19, healthcare system readiness, public health system readiness, and community and business readiness.

2

Risk Assessment will guide reopening, with activities evaluated on contact intensity, number of contacts, and feasibility of risk mitigation. Disease risks will be balanced against economic and psycho-social risks of continued restrictions.

3

Staged Approach will be continuously assessed with rapid return to earlier stages of restriction if best available data indicate that environmental conditions become unfavorable.

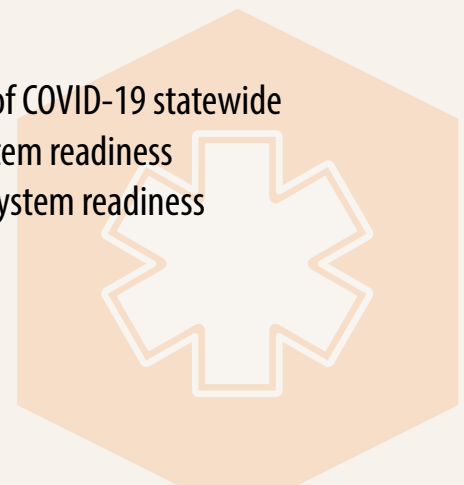
1

Environmental Conditions

Conditions will be continuously monitored and evaluated, statewide. Decisions to reopen or return to prior restrictions will be based on best available information on disease activity and preparedness of the response system to manage a resurgence of cases. Considerations will include emerging disease patterns such as seasonality, and emerging management tools such as therapeutics, diagnostics, and vaccines.

Categories

- Epidemiology of COVID-19 statewide
- Healthcare system readiness
- Public Health system readiness
- Community



2

Risk Stratification¹

Risk stratification will be based on assessment of contact intensity, number of contacts, and feasibility of using mitigation measures. Risk assessment will include consideration of the public and employees. Risks of opening will be balanced against the risks of continued restrictions with their known impacts on psycho-social and economic well-being.

Categories

- Low risk
- Medium risk
- High risk
- Highest risk

¹ Adapted from "Public Health Principles for a Staged Reopening During COVID-19: Guidance for Governors" Johns Hopkins University 2020

3

Staged Approach

Hawai'i's reopening may take place in four stages, with assessment before moving to the next stage. Variations in local conditions may lead to counties entering stages at different times based on local conditions. It is assumed that people, businesses, and government in Hawai'i will use Safe Practices at all stages. This is reflected in the notation throughout that opening occurs with modifications.



In order for a staged approach to be successful:

- All employees and customers must follow “**Safe Practices**” at all stages²
- Higher levels of **safety precautions** specified by the CDC, OSHA, NIOSH, and/or Industry-specific regulatory agencies must be followed at all stages
- Individuals at **higher risk of severe disease** must continue to minimize time and contacts outside the household at all stages

² See “Reopening Hawai'i: Safe Practices” on page 8



ONGOING UNINTERRUPTED ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Current state of essential functions which are ongoing without interruption, although with modifications to incorporate Safe Practices.

Conditions

- New COVID-19 Pandemic with emerging disease epidemiology
- Active case finding, contact tracing, and isolation/quarantine efforts
- Establishment of laboratory testing infrastructure
- Public, partner, and health care provider education
- Multiple social and commercial restrictions at State and County levels
- State and County Emergency Proclamations issued

Preparation

- Entities in Stage 1 are allowed to return to business and other venues to assess and modify environment in preparation for reopening
- Safe Practices are strictly observed during preparation

**4
weeks**

Once situation is monitored for four weeks³, DOH will make recommendations for next stage of reopening.

Essential Functions:

- Businesses, activities and venues deemed essential, as detailed in Governor's Third Supplementary Proclamation. These have continued to operate, with modifications as needed to comply with safe practices
- These include healthcare services and facilities; grocery stores and pharmacies; food, beverage, cannabis and agriculture; educational institutions; charitable and social services; media; gas stations and businesses needed for transportation; financial institutions; hardware and supply stores; critical trades; mail, post, shipping, logistics, deliver and pick-up services; laundry services; restaurants for consumption off-premises; supplies to work from home; supplies for essential businesses and operations; transportation including public, private and commercial; home-based care and services; residential facilities and shelters; professional services; childcare services for children of essential employees; manufacture, distribution, and supply chain for critical products and industries; critical labor union functions; hotels and motels; funeral services; and government functions

REOPENING OF LOW RISK BUSINESSES & VENUES WITH MODIFICATIONS

Given that there is a 14-day downward trend of cases and there are sufficient healthcare and public health resources available, with societal compliance and travel quarantine in place, there can be opening of venues such as parks, beaches, libraries, and golf courses.

Conditions

- 14-day downward trend of cases statewide and <10 median number of new cases/day/week
- Healthcare resources sufficient to safely treat all patients at previous peak case load
- Public health resources sufficient to conduct case follow up within 12 hours and contact tracing within 24 hours
- Quarantine and isolation readily available to cases and close contacts in all counties
- Safe Practices established as the social norm
- Travel quarantine strictly enforced, out-of-state and interisland

Preparation

- Entities in Stage 2 are allowed to return to business and other venues to assess and modify environment in preparation for re-opening
- Safe Practices are strictly observed during preparations

Reopening

- Businesses and other venues with low intensity contact and low numbers of contacts, with modifications as needed to comply with safe practices
- Parks, hiking trails/paths, dog parks, botanical gardens
- Beaches and beach parks
- Golf courses
- Libraries

4
weeks

Once situation is monitored for four weeks⁴, DOH will make recommendations for next stage of reopening.

⁴ Period of monitoring is at least two maximum incubation periods; for COVID-19 the current estimate is 14 days.

REOPENING OF MEDIUM RISK BUSINESSES & VENUES WITH MODIFICATIONS

Given the same environmental conditions as Stage 1 with the addition of enhanced surveillance and testing and no uncontained disease clusters, there can be opening of activities such as retail stores, restaurants, malls, car dealerships, real estate and office environments, child care, and pools.

Conditions

- Disease activity stable or decreasing; no uncontrolled disease clusters
- Surveillance systems providing timely and reliable statewide information
- Testing readily available for all who meet recommended testing criteria, including high risk populations, with turn-around time <48 hours
- Healthcare resources sufficient to safely treat all patients at previous peak case load with normal healthcare functions resumed;
- Public health resources sufficient to conduct case follow up within 12 hours and contact tracing within 24 hours at previous peak case load
- Quarantine and isolation readily available to cases and close contacts in all counties
- Safe Practices continue as the social norm
- Travel quarantines to be evaluated, out-of-state and interisland

Preparation

- Entities in Stage 3 are allowed to return to business and other venues to assess and modify environment in preparation for re-opening
- Safe Practices are strictly observed during preparations

Reopening

- Businesses and other venues with medium/low intensity contact and medium/low numbers of contacts, with modifications as needed to comply with safe practices
- Retail stores
- Restaurants for dine-in service
- Malls
- Car dealerships
- Real estate
- Office environments; teleworking strongly encouraged where possible
- Childcare/Daycare
- Pools

4
weeks

Once situation is monitored for four weeks⁵, DOH will make recommendations for next stage of reopening.

⁵ Period of monitoring is at least two maximum incubation periods; for COVID-19 the current estimate is 14 days.

Reopening of High Risk Businesses and Venues, with Modifications

Given the same environmental conditions as Stage 2, there can be opening of activities such as schools, summer camps, institutions of higher learning, places of worships, community centers, barber/hair salons/nail salons, gyms, and social gatherings of 50 (indoors) to 100 (outdoors).

Conditions

- Disease activity stable or decreasing; no uncontrolled disease clusters
- Surveillance systems providing timely and reliable statewide information
- Testing readily available for all who meet recommended testing criteria, including high risk populations, with turn-around time <48 hours
- Healthcare resources sufficient to safely treat all patients at previous peak case load with normal healthcare functions resumed;
- Public health resources sufficient to conduct case follow up within 12 hours and contact tracing within 24 hours at previous peak case load
- Quarantine and isolation readily available to cases and close contacts in all counties
- Safe Practices continue as the social norm
- Travel quarantines to be evaluated, out-of-state and interisland

Preparation

- Entities in Stage 4 are allowed to return to business and other venues to assess and modify environment in preparation for re-opening
- Safe Practices are strictly observed during preparations

Reopening

- Businesses and other venues with medium/high intensity contact and medium/high numbers of contacts, with modifications as needed to comply with safe practices
- K-12 Schools
- Summer camps
- Institutions of higher learning, including residence halls
- Places of worship
- Community Centers and remaining components of parks and outdoor recreation facilities
- Barbers/hair salons/nail salons
- Gyms
- Social gatherings of < 50 (indoors) and < 100 people (outdoors)

4
weeks

Once situation is monitored for four weeks⁶, DOH will make recommendations for next stage of reopening.

⁶ Period of monitoring is at least two maximum incubation periods; for COVID-19 the current estimate is 14 days.

REOPENING OF HIGHEST RISK BUSINESSES & VENUES WITH LIMITED MODIFICATION POTENTIAL

Given the same environmental conditions as Phase 3 with the additional availability of vaccine and/or therapeutics and/or herd immunity, and effective measures to mitigate travel risks, there can be opening of activities such as bars, large indoor and outdoor events, road races and athletic events, religious and other large social gatherings without limitations, and school sports.

Conditions

- Wide availability of vaccine and/or therapeutic and/or herd immunity achieved
- Effective measures in place to mitigate travel risks
- Disease activity stable or decreasing; no uncontrolled disease clusters
- Surveillance systems providing timely and reliable statewide information
- Testing readily available for all who meet recommended testing criteria, including high risk populations, with turn-around time <48 hours
- Healthcare resources sufficient to safely treat all patients at previous peak case load with normal healthcare functions resumed;
- Public health resources sufficient to conduct case follow up within 12 hours and contact tracing within 24 hours at previous peak case load
- Quarantine and isolation readily available to cases and close contacts in all counties
- Safe Practices continue as the social norm
- Travel quarantines to be evaluated, out-of-state and interisland

Reopening

- Businesses and other venues with high intensity contact and high numbers of contacts, with limited opportunity for modifications to comply with safe practices
- Bars
- Large indoor venues (concerts, sports, conventions, expos)
- Large outdoor venues (concerts, sports, conventions, expos)
- Road races (marathons, triathlons, etc)
- Large social gatherings without limitations
- School sports

**8
weeks**

Once situation is monitored for 8 weeks, transition to baseline disease surveillance and control activities and when deemed safe to do so, consider rescinding “safe practices.”

Reopening Hawai'i: Safe Practices



The following guidelines serve as a baseline for safe practices. Industry-specific higher standards of safety and protection, such as those issued by OSHA, NIOSH, CDC, and Industry organizations, shall be observed as well. These guidelines apply to public-facing workplaces as well as to break rooms, mealtimes, and employee locker rooms.

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	STAGE(S)
Hand hygiene	Hand washing and/or 60% hand sanitizer facilities available in work and public settings for use by employees and the public	ALL
Home if ill	Stay home if ill (except to seek care—call first)	ALL
Face coverings	Cloth face coverings to be worn at all times by employees and the public when outside the home and around others who are not members of the same household	ALL
Surface cleaning	Regular cleaning/disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by the public and employees	ALL
Physical distance	Maintain 6 feet distance between ALL individuals to the fullest extent possible	ALL
Protect high risk	Limited in-person visits to nursing homes, hospitals, congregate facilities. Those at higher risk for severe illness advised to minimize time and activities outside the household.	ALL
Gatherings	Limit large gatherings	Stage 1 & 2: <10 Stage 3: <50 indoors <100 outdoors Stage 4: no limit
Isolation	Isolation of cases either in home or in facility, under DOH monitoring & direction	ALL
Quarantine	Quarantine of contacts of cases either in home or facility, under DOH monitoring & direction	ALL
Travelers	Quarantine of travellers for 14 days after arrival, or until departure (whichever is shorter). Applies to visitors and residents.	Stage 1: Interisland and Out-of-State Stage 2-3: Out-of-State Stage 4: TBD